

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

On page 5, please replace the paragraph beginning with “The textile ply (4)” with the following paragraph:

The textile ply (4), after being spliced, is placed on a conveyor belt to be rolled up (S) in coils. Upon passing through the ~~openings~~ ply circulation slots 5a) and 5b) existent in the image acquisition module (2), the acquisition at a rate of 50 frames per second of the two images obtained in both extremities of the overlapping splice is done and are subsequently digitised and processed in real time. The sub-system of image acquisition (2) enables the creation of environmental lighting conditions and protection of the exterior atmosphere that guarantee constant levels of contrast and colour for the gathered images. In practice, these conditions were achieved by adequately positioning the sources of light and equipping the sub-system with conditions to mitigate the internal reflection: internal barriers of light obstruction in the form of partitions (6) duly positioned and diaphragms for incandescence interception, painting with matt dark paint, ~~bristle curtain~~ comprised of bristle bars or bars of any other ~~or~~ similar material on the ply circulation slots. This sub-system of image acquisition (2) may be constituted by lighting modules (7) of coherent or incoherent light, in the form of incandescent or fluorescent lamps, LED or laser, or others. With respect to the light characteristics it may be uniform, collimated or structured, with a fixed or sweeping beam, and its wavelength be in the area of visible light spectrum, infra-red or ultra-violet. It may still be stroboscopic, which will enable the synchronisation with the detection process on behalf of the module of artificial vision. Other intrinsic characteristics of light such as its polarisation may also be used. The positioning of sources of light in relation to the ply circulation slot was another issue that was explored and used. This diversity views to mitigate the problems of internal reflection in the casing of the image acquisition module as well as facilitating the identification of the overlap area and of the cords in that area by the computerised quality control program.

On page 6, please replace the paragraph beginning with “The system of support” with the following paragraph:

The system of support, fixation and adjustment of the image acquisition module (3) was done by a worm screw controlled by an engine (9) that positions the cameras (~~9~~) (8) on both extremities of the ply in a symmetrical way.